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Review

Of Mission from Cape Coast Castle to Ashantee, with a Statistical account of that Kingdom, and Geographical Notices of other parts of the Interior of Africa. By EDWARD BOWDICH, Esq., Conductor. London, 1819.

(CONTINUED FROM p. 13.)

Our last number contained a minute account of the very imposing circumstances which attended the entrance of Mr. Bowdich and his companions into Coomassie, the capital of Ashantee. "A range of spacious but ruinous buildings" were allotted to them for a residence, and several days elapsed before they were permitted to make known, publicly, the objects of their mission.

They were invited to "speak their first palaver" in the market, that all the people might understand it. Here they found the King, "encircled by the most splendid insignia and surrounded by his caboceers." Mr. James, "through his linguist, declared to the King's, (who are alone allowed to speak to him in public) that the objects of the mission were friendship and commerce"—that the English desired that some one of their na-

tion might be permitted to reside at Coomassie, and that a direct path should be opened to Cape Coast Castle. He assured the King that the valuable presents which they had brought, would convince him that they were acting with perfect sincerity and good faith.

Shortly after this interview, the King requested that the presents should be sent to his own house. This it was supposed was from policy, to prevent any favourable bias on the part of the caboceers and people towards the mission, which a public exhibition of them might produce.

When the packages were opened, nothing could exceed the pleasure and surprise of the King.—“Englishmen”, said he, admiring the workmanship of the different articles, “know how to do every thing proper.” “This showed him that the English were a great people, that they wished to be friends with him, to be as one with the Ashantees; this made him much pleasure to see, and he thanked the King of England, the Governor of Cape Coast Castle, and the officers who brought the presents, much, very much.”

Thus far every thing seemed prosperous. The King sent his messenger to repeat his expressions of gratitude for the gifts which had been bestowed on him. The mathematical and astronomical instruments were greatly admired, particularly the telescope and camera obscura, and called forth the exclamation, that “Englishmen knew more than Dutchmen or Danes—that black men knew nothing.” Suddenly, however, a difficulty occurred of a very alarming nature, and which came near to defeating all the purposes of the mission. The following is the account given of it by Mr. Bowdich, which we insert for the purpose of strikingly illustrating the disposition of the King, and showing the necessity of promptness and resolution in dealing with such rude and undisciplined minds.

“The King then ordered our people to be dismissed, said he would look at the telescope in a larger place, that now he wished to talk with us. He again acknowledged the gratification of Tuesday, and desired Mr. James to explain to him two notes which he produced, written by the Governor in chief, at the request of Amooney, King of Annamaboe, and Adokoo, Chief of the Braffoes, making over to Sai, King of Ashantee, four ackies per month of their Company’s pay, as a pledge of their allegiance, and the

termination of hostilities. The impression seemed instantly to have rooted itself in the King's mind, that this was the Governor's individual act, or that he had instanced it; his countenance changed, his counsellors became enraged—they were all impatience, we all anxiety. 'Tell the white men,' said the King, 'what they said yesterday made me much pleasure; I was glad we were to be friends; but to-day I see they come to put shame upon my face; this breaks my heart too much. The English know, with my powder, with my own shot, I drove the Fantees under their forts; I spread my sword over, they were all killed, and their books from the fort are mine. I can do as much for the English, as the Fantees: they know this well; they know that I have only to send a captain, to get all the heads of the Fantees. These white men cheat me; they think to make 'Shantee fool; they pretend to make friends with me, and they join with the Fantees to cheat me, to put shame upon my face: this makes the blood come from my heart.' This was reported by his linguist with a passion of gesture and utterance scarcely inferior to the King's; the irritation spread throughout the circle, and swelled even to uproar.

'Thus much was inevitable (says Mr. Bowdich in his communication to the Governor); it was one of our anticipated difficulties; it was not a defeat, but a check; and here originates our charge against Mr. James, whom we declare to have been deficient in presence of mind; and not to have exerted those assurances and arguments, which, with a considerate zeal, might at least have tended to ameliorate the unjust impression of the King, if not to have eradicated it. Mr. James said, 'the Governor of Cape Coast Castle had done it, that he knew nothing about it, that he was sent only to make the compliments to the King, that if the King liked to send a messenger with him, *he was going back, and would tell the Governor all that the King said.*' This was all that was advanced. Was this enough for such a mission to effect? The King repeated, 'That he had expected we had come to settle all palavers, and to stay and make friends with him; but we came to make a fool of him.' The King asked him to tell him how much had been paid on these notes since his demand—that he knew white men had large books which told this. Mr. James said he had seen, but he could not recollect. Nothing could exceed the King's indignation—'White men', he exclaimed, 'know how many months pass, how many years they live, and they know this, but they wont tell me; could not the other white men tell me?' Mr. James said 'we never looked in the books.'

'Mr. James's embarrassment had not only hurried him to extricate himself, as an individual, at the expense of his own dignity and intellect, but, which was worse, he had thrown the whole onus of this invidious transaction on the shoulders of the Governor in Chief; against whom the King's prejudice would be fatal to all, and whose interest in his honour was most flattering to the King, most auspicious to us and the hopes of the mission; not only the future prosperity, but the present security of the settlements

hung upon this, and the dagger was at this moment suspended by a cobweb. Mr. Bowdich urged this in the ear of Mr. James, urged the danger of leaving the King thus provoked, the fatal sacrifice of every object of the mission, the discredit of the service, the disgrace of ourselves. Mr. James replied, 'he knew the Governor's private sentiments best.'

"The Moors of authority seized the moment, and zealously fanned the flame which encircled us; for the King looking in vain for those testimonies of British feeling which presence of mind would have imposed, exclaimed as he turned his ears from the Moors, 'I know the English come to spy out the country; they come to cheat me; they want war, they want war.' Mr. James said, 'No! we want trade.' The King impatiently continued, 'They join the Fantees to put shame upon my face; I will send a captain to-morrow to take these books, and bring me the heads of all the Fantees under the forts; the white men know I can do this, I have only to speak to my captains. The Dutch Governor does not cheat me, he does not shame me before the Fantees; he sends me the whole four ozs. a month. The Danes do not shame me, and the English four achies a month is nothing to me; I can send a captain for all; they wish war.' He drew his beard into his mouth, bit it, and rushing abruptly from his seat, exclaimed, 'Shantee foo! Shantee foo! Ah! ah!' Then shaking his finger at us, with an angry aspect, would have burst from us with the exclamation, 'If a black man had brought me this message, I would have had his head cut off before me.'—Mr. James was silent. Not a moment was to be lost. Mr. Bowdich stood before the King, and begged to be heard; his attention was arrested, the clamours of the council gradually abated; there was no interpreter but the one Mr. James brought from his own fort, and no alternative but to charge him promptly in the Governor's name, before reflection could associate the wishes of his master, to speak truly. Mr. Bowdich continued standing before the King, and declared "that the Governor wished to gain his friendship more than he could think;" that we were sent not only to compliment him, but to write what he had to say to the Governor, and to wait to tell his answer to the King, and to do all he ordered; to settle all palavers, and to make Ashantees and English as one before we went back. That the Governor of Accra (Mr. James) was sick and in pain, and naturally wished to go back soon, but that himself and the other two officers would stay with the King until they made him sure that the Governor was a good friend to him. That we would rather get anger and lose every thing ourselves, than let the King think the Governor sent us to put shame on him; that we would trust our lives to the King, until we had received the Governor's letter to make him think so, and to tell us to do all that was right, to make the Ashantees and English as one; and this would show the King we did not come to spy the country, but to do good.' Conviction flashed across the countenance of the interpreter, and he must have done Mr. Bowdich's speech justice; for the cheerful aspect of the morning was resumed in every

countenance. The applause was general; the King (who had again resumed his seat) held out his hand to Mr. Bowdich, and said, 'He spoke well; what he spoke was good; he liked his palaver much.' "

By this energy on the part of Mr. Bowdich, the great difficulty which threatened defeat to the purposes of the mission, seemed to be removed. The preceding extract is from the joint letter of Messrs. Bowdich, Hutchison, and Tedlie, to the Governor of Cape Coast Castle, in consequence of which Mr. James was recalled, and Mr. Bowdich appointed Principal in his place.—The Moors exerted themselves continually, to prevent the success of the English. Two days after the interview of which we have just given some account, Mr. Bowdich and his associates, were conducted a short distance out of town, to an assembly of Moorish Caboceers and dignitaries, and required to swear upon the Koran that they had put no poison in the King's liquor.—This they refused to do, but offered to take oath upon their own prayer books. The King's linguist requested them to strike the Koran thrice, and make the desired declaration, because the Moors said, that the book would kill them if they spoke falsehood. Having done this, they received about two hours afterwards, the following present from the King:—

"One Bullock, two Pigs, eight ounces of Gold, for Mr. James.

"One Sheep, two ounces four ackies of Gold, for each of us.

"To each of the numerous Fantee Messengers, ten ackies of Gold.

"To our Cooks, a large assortment of pots and country vessels, 100 large billets of wood, 100 Yams, 100 bunches of Plantains, four of Sugar Cane, four (24 gallon) pots of Palm Oil, three jars of Palm Wine.

"To the Soldiers, ten ackies of Gold.

"To the Accra Linguist, ten ackies of Gold."

This was not the only instance of the King's liberality; it was repeatedly manifested in an equal degree, whenever he was gratified with the conduct of the mission. Mr. Bowdich declares the sentiments of the King on one occasion, to have been "incredibly liberal, and such as would have ennobled the most civilized Monarchs." The palace is thus described:

"On Saturday we were summoned to the King, and waited as usual, a

considerable time in one of the outer courts of the Palace, which is an immense building of a variety of oblong courts and regular squares; the former with arcades along the one side, some of round arches symmetrically turned, having a skeleton of bamboo; the entablatures exuberantly adorned with bold, fan, and trellis work of Egyptian character. They have a suit of rooms over them with small windows of wooden lattice, of intricate but regular carved work, and some have frames cased with thin gold. The squares have a large apartment on each side, open in front, with two supporting pillars, which break the view, and give it all the appearance of the proscenium or front of the stage of the older Italian Theatres. They are lofty and regular, and the cornices of a very bold cane work in alto relievo. A drop curtain of curiously plaited cane is suspended in front, and in each we observed chairs and stools embossed with gold, and beds of silk with scattered regalia. The most ornamented part of the palace is the residence of the women. We have passed through it once: the fronts of the apartments were closed (except two open door ways) by pannels of curious open carving, conveying a striking resemblance at first sight to an early Gothic screen: one was entirely closed and had two curious doors of a low arch, and strengthened or battened with wood work, carved in high relief and painted red. Doors chancing to open as we passed, surprised us with a glimpse of large apartments in corners we could not have thought of; the most secret appeared the most adorned. In our daily course through the palace there is always a delay of some minutes, before the door of each of the several distinct squares is unlocked; within the innermost square is the Council Chamber."

The appearance of the King on one occasion, is thus described:—

"He was encircled by a varied profusion of insignia, even more sumptuous than that we had seen before, and sat at the end of two long files of counsellors, caboceers, and captains; they were seated under their umbrellas, composed of scarlet and yellow cloth, silks, shawls, cottons and every glaring variety, with carved and golden pelicans, panthers, baboons, barrels, crescents, &c. on the top; the shape generally a dome. Distinct and pompous retinues were placed around, with gold canes, spangled elephants' tails to brush off the flies, gold headed swords, and embossed muskets, and many splendid novelties too numerous but for a particular report. Each had the dignitaries of his own province or establishment to his right and left; and it was truly a "Concilium in concilio." This magnificence seemed the effect of enchantment."

On one occasion the embassy proceeded to Sallagha, a town situated at a considerable distance to the North East of Coomasie. Here the King received them with every mark of attention and respect. He anxiously inquired if they had breakfasted,

and ordered refreshments. In a house prepared for their reception, they found soups, stews, plantains, yams, rice, &c. (sufficient for an army, all excellently cooked) wine, spirits, oranges, and every fruit. About two o'clock dinner was announced.

"We had been taught to prepare for a surprise, but it was exceeded.—We were conducted to the eastern side of the croom, to a door of green reeds, which excluded the crowd, and admitted us through a short avenue to the King's garden, an area equal to one of the large squares in London. The breezes were strong and constant. In the centre four large umbrellas of new scarlet cloth were fixed, under which was the King's dining table, (heightened for the occasion) and covered in the most imposing manner; his massy plate was well disposed, and silver forks, knives, and spoons, (Col Torrane's) were plentifully laid. The large silver waiter supported a roasting pig in the centre; the other dishes on the table were roasted ducks, fowls, stews, pease, puddings, &c. &c. On the ground on one side of the table were various soups, and every sort of vegetable; and elevated parallel with the other side, were oranges, pines, and other fruits; sugar candy, Port and Madeira wine, spirits and Dutch cordials, with glasses. Before we sat down the King met us, and said: that as we had come out to see him, we must receive the following present from his hand: two ounces, four ackies of gold—one sheep and one large hog for the officers—ten ackies to the linguists, and five ackies to the servants.

"We never saw a dinner more handsomely served, and never ate a better. On our expressing our relish, the King sent for his cooks and gave them ten ackies. The King and a few of his captains sat at a distance, but he visited us constantly, and seemed quite proud of the scene; he conversed freely, and expressed much satisfaction at our toasts:—"The King of Ashantee, the King of England, the Governor, the King's Captains, a perpetual union (with a speech which is the *sine qua non*,) and the handsome women of England and Ashantee." After dinner the King made many inquiries about England, and retired as we did, that our servants might clear the table, which he insisted on. When he returned, some of the wine and Dutch cordials remaining, he gave them to our servants to take with them, and ordered the table cloth, to be thrown to them and all the napkins. A cold pig, cold fowls, (with six that had not been dressed) were despatched to Coomassie for our supper. We took leave about five o'clock, the King accompanying us to the end of the croom, where he took our hands and wished us good night."

One great object of the mission, the ratification of a treaty of peace, friendship and commerce, could not be effected without repeated explanations from the Governor of Cape Coast Castle. Four months therefore elapsed, before Mr. Bowdich's return be-

came possible, without leaving unaccomplished, a principal design of the expedition. During this period no pains were spared to acquire information in reference to the character, government and customs of Ashantee; the geography and natural history of the neighbouring tribes, and of the interior; and on all these subjects the work before us is full of interest. We must postpone further notice of it however, until our next number.

(To be continued.)



Latest from Liberia.

(CONCLUDED FROM p. 25.)

The Schools of the Colony continue to receive the attention which their importance demands. But the want of erudition in our instructors, is sorely felt.

The want of school books is likewise a great impediment to the progress of elementary education in the Colony; and I beg pardon for reminding the Board of the plan I took the liberty to propose to them a few months since, for supplying the Colony with school books, by engaging some respectable Bookseller, whose capital should bear him out in the design, to make ample consignments to some commission merchant of the Colony, on such terms as shall pay him for the risk incurred.

In the chain of great moral causes and effects, it may be no trivial event, that a school has been opened by the Baptist Missionaries of the Colony, 35 miles in the interior from Cape Mount, and 65 or 70, from Montserado, under very flattering auspices, for the instruction of the children of the Vey nation. Its direct management is confided to a pious and prudent young man, six years in Africa—and superintended generally, by the Missionaries, Carey and Lewis. It commenced with 35 scholars—and is decidedly patronized by the Prince, and first Chiefs (King there is none at this time) of the nation—who declare it to be their intention to clothe, and train in all respects to the habits of civilized life, all the youth who receive instruction at this school.

The experiment of the Infirmary of Invalids, established on the 15th of August last, perhaps, answers its design fully. Its

average number of members, including invalids and poor, is 20. Three-fourths of this number are sufferers from ulcerated feet, ancles, and legs. It is found that patients, some of whom were thought to be incurably afflicted, most certainly recover under the treatment followed in this Institution—and in less than half the time which they formerly suffered in arriving at a cure.—The expense attending the establishment is less than the original estimate. But the patients earn less—as most of the cases are judged by the physician of a nature not to admit of the exercise of the limbs, by any sort of labour which we have yet been able to introduce.

Present state of the Infirmary of Invalids, Nov. 28.

Patients, Confined of ulcerated limbs,	13
“ not recovered from sickness caused by climate,	2
“ Decays of age,	1
African Women (Norfolk's company) having no other places—and put in the Infirmary to be employed, including their children,	9
Poor, Orphan, and other friendless Children,	5
Superintendent,	1
	<hr/>
	31*

Of this number, it is seen, that fifteen out of thirty-one, are in perfect health—and one afflicted with a disorder, which would certainly have overtaken her in America. Of the 2 reported there from the effects of fever, one has obtained his discharge and this moment left me; the other is nearly well. Of the thirteen cases of ulcers, one half will be discharged in four weeks. Without the Infirmary there is no sickness, and very few cases of diseased limbs, or even of slight indisposition, within my knowledge (none therefore that has attracted the notice of the Commissioners of Health). Three deaths, of which two were of aged people, have occurred since my last.

* *Note.*—December 22,—last report for December:

Ulcers,	8
Age,	1
Africans, assisting, and supported at the Infirmary,	9
Poor children,	3
Superintendent,	1—22, of
whom 13 are in good health.	

It is important to be reported to the Board, as a fact in the history of the health of the Colony, well attested by experience, that persons advanced in age, are almost sure to abridge by several years, the length of their lives, by removing to this country. They are not particularly liable to be cut off by the first impression of the fever—but generally sure to be worn out by slow degrees, within a very few years afterwards. The mind sympathises with the body, and both gradually sink together. But it is otherwise with the vigorous and the young. They readily adapt their habits to the peculiarities of the African life—and enjoy the most perfect health. It is but little, indeed, that the aged *can* gain on the most favourable supposition, by removing to this Colony. Eight in ten shorten their days by it. And it is my decided opinion, that they ought to end their lives where they have worn them out; and not be sent out to Africa, merely to save America a grave to rest their bones in. They cannot contribute to multiply their race—which is itself an apology for their remaining in America, and an objection to their transportation to the Colony.—And, on this point, indulge me in remarking, further, that we, on this side the water think we sometimes discover reasons why certain individuals *do*, and certain others *do not*, leave America, which may have escaped the agents in that country.

Admitting the popularity of the scheme at home, to require the indiscriminate acceptance of every man that may be offered as a candidate for transportation—yet, at this stage of our settlements, it is altogether unquestionable, that the welfare of the Colony requires no little discrimination in the selection of emigrants.—In 1824, the Colony was *saved* by the seasonable arrival of three or four scores of select emigrants from Virginia. It is not impossible even now, for as many thousands, sent out without selection, to overthrow it. A man of sound principle and sterling worth, and much more, a well trained, industrious and virtuous family, is beginning to be appreciated as an important accession to our community. Not that such individuals or families are not already numerous—but the sphere of every man's influence, placed on so raised an eminence, as he must here occupy, is so wide, as to make it desirable, were the thing possible, that we should have few, or none of opposite character.

CALDWELL, DECEMBER 7, 1827.

The militia of the Colony has undergone an important change, in its organization this season. As intimated in my last, the compulsory system, which has so often left the militia of the U. States to disgrace their country, in the face of an enemy, by their want of science, discipline, and (in consequence) of firmness, has been exploded. It is not possible to introduce into any militia system, the severity of military law—consequently the efficiency of militia, must depend on such qualifications as are the growth of the voluntary principles of human nature.—But where the military spirit is not sufficiently active to engage the soldier, under reasonable encouragements, to improve, and perfect himself, *without compulsion*, in the military art—it is not sufficient to make him a soldier under any circumstances applicable to the people of the Colony.

Certain fatigue services, and much drudgery connected with the defence of the Colony, there is to be done—and as this duty requires nothing but a pair of able hands, it is divided in the shape of a labour-tax amongst all the settlers. But the duty of bearing arms, and of enrolment in the serviceable militia of the Colony, is left to the public spirit of the people. And I am pleased to be able to state, that there are but about half a dozen able-bodied men, not specially exempted, who are not, *by voluntary enrolment*, members of an uniformed corps.

The oldest of these companies, is Captain Barbour's Light Infantry—composed of select young men, completely armed and equipt, highly disciplined (relatively)—and consisting of about *forty* men. Uniform, light blue, faced with white.

The next, in age, is Captain Davis's, (Caldwell,) heavy Infantry. Uniform, white with blue bars—well armed and accoutred, and indifferently well disciplined. It has, at the present moment, fewer men than the Light Infantry, but will during the ensuing season become the larger company.

The third is a company of Light Artillery, Monrovia, composed of select young men—completely uniformed and equipt, and having been lately organized on the new principle, consists of only about thirty men. But, as this corps is exceedingly popular, it must very rapidly increase for some time to come. Capt. Devany is the present commander of the corps. Its uniform, deep blue with red facings.

The fourth corps is also a newly organized Artillery company, commanded by Captain Prout—and belongs to Caldwell. Its number is nearly equal to Captain Devany's.

No. 5. is properly a detachment of twenty Guards, under Lt. Johnson; enlisted, or drafted for one year from the body of the citizens, for the exclusive purpose of manning Fort Norris battery. These guards being liable at any moment, to be called to their posts by a signal gun from the battery, *ought* to be in high discipline. We endeavour to make them perfect in all that relates to the management of garrison ordnance. When stationed for the protection of foreign vessels, or for the detention of vessels attempting to violate the port, or commercial regulations of the Colony, they are entitled to be paid each man, five cents per the hour.

Besides this guard, a subaltern officer, at a compensation of 18 dollars per month, is stationed constantly at Fort Norris battery, where he resides with his family. His duty is to keep the guns, armament, and ammunition of the battery, in a state of complete readiness for service. He is charged with the signals of the Colony; by means of which every vessel that appears, with all its movements, and every circumstance relating to it, is instantly announced to the Agent, or officer of the guard, in town.

Two-thirds of this officer's pay is from the store house; one third from the colonial treasury.

The Tower on *Crown Hill* has not been resumed this season. Central Fort is slowly advancing towards completion, on the plan sent home, last winter. The three pentagonal, two-story Towers at the angles, were erected, and roofed, and used even before the last rains, as green houses. But they want plastering, and some additional work about the port-holes. The three walls connecting these angular works into one, and covering the principal battery of the Fort, are now laying—and without unknown interruptions, will be completed during the present dry season.

The Market House, of which a plan was sent home nearly 18 months ago, and a part of the materials at that time collected, after having been suspended from time to time since, is now proceeding with fresh spirit. The work was dropped in 1826, in

consequence of a part of the settlers withholding their quota of the money required for its erection, from a disagreement as to its situation. And I did not feel authorized to make so large an appropriation of the public funds, for such a building, as a partial and limited contribution on the part of the people to the work, would require.—Its site is Central Avenue, a little to the Eastward of the centre of the present settled part of the town.

A neat, but small building of two stories has been erected since my last, for a Colonial Dispensary. Hitherto, not only great inconvenience has been the consequence of having no building in which our medicines and hospital stores might be disposed in an orderly manner, but much loss by damage and waste, has been suffered from the want of one. The basement story is of mason-work—the upper, frame—well plastered inside, and painted without. The building will cost about \$270, and be completed in the month of January.

It is not my intention to erect many new buildings this season—but direct my attention to the completion of such as are already erected, but not entirely finished.—Of these, are the new Agency house, into which I have determined, in case of the continuance of my life, to remove on the first day of March. The Piazza—much more expensive than the body of the house, is now nearly completed. But little remains to be done to the house, except the Venitian work—plastering and painting. Some out-houses and additions must be constructed—but these I shall defer to another season—as they are not at present absolutely required.—I am now employed in walling in the public premises, both at the Cape, and at Caldwell—a work very necessary; but as the Cape lot embraces an acre of ground—and the Caldwell buildings occupy more than two acres, it will be attended with great labour, and considerable expense.

The United States' Buildings at Stockton have also to be painted—some of them plastered—and all underpinned this season; as also the Public Receptacle on the St. Paul's. The last named item of building, except at Monrovia, is very expensive, as we must either use bricks, or transport every stone the distance of 4 to 7 miles from the Cape, not a stone being to be found in either of the other settlements.

The recaptured Africans, introduced per the Norfolk, gener-

ally retained their health through the first months—but there were in all, from 40 to 50 exceptions. All are now in perfect health—and in a condition vastly improved. They have more than equalled our highest anticipations; proving to be generally orderly, easily governed, and willing to labour. They have, indeed, proved an acquisition to the Colony; as they supply the places of vagrant country labourers, whose object in hiring to the settlers, in short terms of one or two months at a time, have commonly been, less their wages, than the means of committing depredations on their employers.—I have retained in the public service for the year, at Monrovia, seven men and three wives—at the Infirmary, three women, and three children—and at Caldwell, four men, two women, and a child, total 21.—The residue have places among the settlers.—At the end of the year, (or in August 1828,) I am pledged to grant to all such as deserve them, lands on the Stockton and elsewhere.—I have judged it sufficient, at first, to allow to single men two acres; and to married, three. This will suffice for several years to come—and better even make to the industrious and deserving a second grant subsequently, than grant them the choice of the public lands in unnecessary quantities, before it can be known whether they possess sufficient industry and enterprise to reduce them to cultivation.

After the first of January it is intended that a Packet Boat, large enough to accommodate 20 passengers with their baggage, will ply every second day between Monrovia and Caldwell, and return on the intermediate days; touching at Stockton Town, and the half way farms, going and returning.—Such an accommodation has become almost indispensable; the intercourse between the settlements, particularly from Caldwell to Monrovia, and from Monrovia to the half way farms, having grown too frequent and large for individuals to provide themselves with the means of conveyance. It is not improbable, that two or three years will produce a demand for Steam-boat Engines in the Colony. A single Boat of about forty tons could, at this moment, be employed with advantage and economy, to ply, one half the year, between Monrovia, and all our factories. The climate is destructive to all machinery intended to work with exactness, unless kept in constant use; and it is only the circumstance of

being obliged to lay up a Steam-boat for half of the year, that prevents an immediate application for one.

It was stated in former communications, that I had entered on a negotiation with "Mama," the proprietress of the North half of Bushrod Island, the object of which was, in the American phraseology, "to extinguish her title" to all the lands forming the right, or Western bank of the Stockton. Since I began this letter, I have effected the ceremony of executing the deed ceding to the Colony this tract of land. The cession was agreed upon several months ago. Enclosed (*See Paper A*) is the deed. A settlement had already been commenced on this tract, opposite to Caldwell, of which it is designed for the present, to form a part. We have thus occupied Bushrod Island; which, containing a tract of 20,000 acres of fine, level land, is destined at some future period, and that not very remote, to become the orchard and granary of the Montserado district of Liberia.

MONROVIA, DEC. 18, 1827.

To-day arrived in our Roads the schooner Susan, Edwards, of and from Baltimore, after the very uncommon passage of 70 days. Passenger, John Henson, a colonist, who brings advice of the outfit of a transport with 100 emigrants—whose arrival may be expected in January.

Capt. Edwards brings an assorted cargo, which will readily sell for wood; but the articles are not in sufficient demand to sell readily for Ivory or dollars.

The sooner the emigrants now arrive the better. We have shelters ready for their reception—and have so systematized the provisioning department, as to be put a very little out of our ordinary course, by the addition of 1 to 2 hundred settlers—an event, which, two years ago, would have reduced the whole Colony, for a month or more, to a "make-shift."

It must have occurred to the Board of Managers, that their colonists have put them hitherto, to very great expense, for their support after they reach this country. It has occupied a large share of my attention the year past—and I believe the plan hitherto acted upon, is susceptible of considerable improvement in point of economy. Six months' support has been afforded to *all* without distinction, or other exceptions, than of such individuals as proved able to take care of themselves.

The improvement proposed, is, to provide all with comfortable houses for a reasonable term, gratuitously; and, *as far as practicable*, with tools and implements of husbandry. Thus far, all are to be assisted, unconditionally, and equally—but no farther. Every man is immediately to have his building lot, and other lands, laid off and assigned to him—and encouraged without delay, to proceed to occupy and improve them; and to such as actually do so, such farther aid, in the way of provisions, coarse clothing, &c. will be afforded, as the supplies on hand will allow, and the diligence of the settlers individually, entitle them to. All others, if mechanics, are expected to exercise their trades; if farmers, will be put to work on the public farm, and paid according to their earnings—chiefly in provisions, and common materials for clothing, with a few building materials.

Few, under these circumstances, will long delay to fix themselves on their own premises, and spend their labour on their own improvements.

The sick, for the time being, must receive their subsistence, as well as medical treatment, at the public expense. But so soon as they are struck from the sick list, let them be replaced on the common footing of the other new emigrants in health.

The aged—some single women—and particularly single women with large families, are obliged to be a greater burden on the public funds—and must have a large part of their support at the public expense, for 6, 9, and even 12 months. With the approbation of the Board, I will make a thorough experiment of this method—which I must beg leave to observe, cannot be well attested in any other way. Of one point, I have not a doubt—and that is, that a very great reduction can be effected in the expenses incurred on account of settlers after their arrival in the Colony: and it is a subject too deeply affecting the whole scheme of colonization, not to receive immediate and constant attention. I am sensible, that much depends on the Agent in this country. But he requires the advice and instructions of the Board; and much may certainly be done towards lightening future expenses, by not only suffering, but encouraging all emigrants to bring all their tools, implements, cooking and domestic utensils, except such bulky articles alone, as it would be manifestly absurd to lumber a ship with. When tools, &c. are

bought for, or by emigrants, they ought, if for mechanics, to be of course, those of their trades—otherwise, to consist almost wholly of *Axes*, broad and narrow, a large supply;—*Hoes*, hilling and grubbing;—*Picks*; *Spades*; *Bill-hooks*; *Saws*, whip, cross-cut, and hand; *Files*; *Frows*; *Drawingknives*; and Jack and Fore Planes.

To these tools, add *nails*; and your emigrants are equipt for their first two years' work.

Friday, December 21, 1827.

Arrived, the U. States' ship, "Ontario," returning home from the Mediterranean—from Gibraltar, the 11th of Nov. Captain Nicolson has kindly offered to take charge of letters. This gentleman has, since his arrival, taken unwearied pains to ascertain from personal inspection, the true state, and I think has qualified himself to judge correctly of the prospects of the settlers.—His ship will probably remain five days at the Cape.

Same day, arrived from *Basle*, by way of England and Sierra Leone, a pioneer of the Swiss Mission, to be established in Liberia. In May last, three Missionaries, Handt, Hegele, and Sessing, all single, were deputed by the Evangelical Society of *Basle*, for Liberia. They arrived in England in June—where, pursuant to instructions, they remained till the 11th of November—when they went on board, at London, of an English ship, bound to Sierra Leone; but were obliged, by stress of weather, to put back into Portsmouth. On the point of sailing from that port, Hegele received a wound on the head, by the falling of a block, which, it was feared, would prove mortal. He was conveyed on shore, and necessarily left to the providence of God, and the care of Christian friends; while the two others, Messrs. *Handt* and *Sessing*, proceeded on their voyage, and arrived at Sierra Leone about the 10th of the present month. On the 12th, the U. S. ship *Ontario*, leaving Sierra Leone for Liberia, Capt. Nicolson generously offered the Missionaries a passage to this place. It was not possible, however, for a public vessel to bring more than a very small part of the very ample stores with which the munificence of European Christians had furnished these devoted servants of God and man, on their final departure from their native country. Only one could, therefore, accept of

Capt. N's. overture, and Mr. Sessing has accordingly arrived here by that ship, on the 21st. Mr. Handt awaits at Sierra Leone, a passage for himself and the missionary property, to this Colony.

But these two gentlemen are only the pioneers of a much larger force, nearly ready to follow. Two more were on the point of leaving Switzerland, when these left England, and may be expected in two months' time. Dr. Blumhardt has written me, in the name of the Directing Committee of the Basle Evangelical Institution, a letter full of the most excellent sentiments—and of paternal and affectionate concern for the young men of the Mission. It is needless to say, that they possess the entire confidence of that judicious and excellent man, and his very respectable associates—and that all temporal views, in the formation of this Christian establishment, are utterly discarded. Too much is, perhaps, left to my discretion, in regard to the selection of a site for the mission, and in recommending the mode of carrying it on, and the arrangement of its temporal concerns. While the civil and religious departments of the Colony are preserved as distinct, as interests so infinitely dissimilar in their nature and importance should be, nothing can have a more salutary influence, both on the Colony and surrounding tribes, than a well conducted Christian Mission in the hands of pious and enlightened men.

For what is civilization,—regard either its real value to rational and immortal beings, or its intrinsic nature and character, without the Christian religion? Two hundred years' constant intercourse with Europeans, has left the people of the coast less intelligent, less industrious, lower in the scale of human nature, and more debased in moral principle, than the heathen tribes of the interior which never saw a white man.

The gentlemen of the Mission are all liberally educated—and all either possess mechanical trades, or have been accustomed to agriculture. I expect them to remain a few months in our settlements, to learn to stand the climate—and then proceed to some station not upon the sea coast, nor yet, at too great a distance in the interior, and to sit down under the protection of the Colony. At present, it appears likely they will fix their first station some where among the leeward tribes, who speak

the Bassa language—perhaps, on one of the smaller islands in the St. John's River, about 8 or 9 miles from its mouth. But nothing has yet been certainly determined. Their whole lives are devoted to the work of evangelizing and civilizing these tribes; and may they receive a great reward in that world to which they look for it.

Eight coloured people, natives of the United States, and all capable of great usefulness, and recommended in strong terms by Capt. Nicolson, have been discharged from the "Ontario," and received at the Colony, as probationers for citizenship.—They have received in drafts on the United States, and otherwise, nearly three years' wages—which, well managed, will set them all up in business at once.

Capt. N. also deserves, in behalf of the Colony, my very particular acknowledgments. Having, at Gibraltar, notice of the destination of his ship, he was at the pains to procure for the Colony, from Tunis, a collection of most of the useful garden and other seeds, of African production. These, with other seeds collected in the Archipelago and Asia Minor, he has left in my hands. Our hope is, that they may so far succeed as to seed the Colony permanently with such species of the different vegetables as shall be natural to the climate, which we have in vain attempted to do with the American species.

Capt. N. has, greatly to his own credit, and my gratification, evinced not only a favourable disposition, but anxious solicitude for the advancement of your Colony—of which he has given more substantial proofs than by mere professions.

Respectfully, Gentlemen,

I have the honour to remain

Your obedient servant,

J. ASHMUN.

Report of the Select Com. to Congress.

Many of our friends will doubtless read the following Report with deep interest. We have ever believed that the great work so auspiciously commenced by the Society, must be completed

by the power of the States and the Nation. We hail with delight, therefore, every indication of a friendly disposition, either on the part of the State Legislatures or the Federal Government.

Mr. MERCER, from the Select Committee appointed on the subject, made the following Report: March 3, 1827.

The Committee to whom were referred sundry memorials of the American Colonization Society, of citizens of various portions of the United States, together with the resolutions of the Legislatures of the States of Delaware and Kentucky, inviting the aid of the Federal Government to colonize in Africa, with their own consent, the free people of colour of the United States, report:

That the memorials and resolutions present to the consideration of Congress an object which must be regarded as of the highest importance to the future peace, prosperity, and happiness of the United States.

Surrounded with difficulties, in proportion to the magnitude of the interests that it involves, has been the circumspection with which the committee have approached it. Could they hope that the evil, to which the memorials and resolutions point, would find a remedy in silent neglect, or could be mitigated by concealment, they would ask to be discharged from its further investigation. The peculiar delicacy of another topic, almost inseparable, in imagination at least, however distinguishable in truth, from the purpose of the several memorials and resolutions referred to them, would induce the committee to avoid its consideration, if a sense of duty, prompted by the hope that their labour may not be in vain, did not urge them to proceed in the delicate task imposed upon them by the order of the House.

Its object, the committee are well aware, is not novel, nor even now for the first time, presented to the notice of Congress.

It involves an inquiry into the expediency of promoting, by the authority and resources of the General Government, the colonization of the free people of colour, beyond the territorial limits of the United States.

The existence of a distinct race of people, in the bosom of the United States, who, both by their moral and political condition and their natural complexion, are excluded from a social equality with the great body of the community, invited the serious attention and awakened the anxious solicitude of many American statesmen, as soon as the unhappy traffic which had annually multiplied them, ceased to be regarded as innocent. A part of them, once held by the same tenure which originally introduced them all into America, were, in some of the United States, liberated before, and in others, by, the revolution. In many States, however, their total number was, as it still continues to be, so great, that universal or general emancipation could not be hazarded, without endangering a convulsion fatal to the peace of society. No truth has been more awfully demonstrated by the

experience of the present age, than that to render freedom a blessing, man must be qualified for its enjoyment; that a total revolution in his character cannot be instantaneously wrought by the agency of ordinary moral and physical causes, or by the sudden force of unprepared revolution.

Still, in many States of the American Union, all the coloured population are now free; and, in others, so circumstanced as still to render universal emancipation dangerous to the public happiness; large bodies of free coloured people have arisen, from the influence of humanity in the master, under a system of laws which, if they did not promote, did not till recently prohibit, voluntary enfranchisement. The enlargement of the rights of the coloured race extend, however, to very various limits in the different States. In no two, perhaps, has it precisely the same extent. In none does it efface all civil and political distinctions between the coloured man and the white inhabitant or citizen. Over moral influences mere laws have every where less power than manners. No where in America, therefore, has emancipation elevated the coloured race to perfect equality with the white; and, in many States, the disparity is so great that it may be questioned whether the condition of the slave, while protected by his master, however degraded in itself, is not preferable to that of the free negro. Nor is this any where so questionable as in those States which have both the greatest number of slaves and of free people of colour. It is, at the same time, worthy of remark, that, among *these*, the principle of voluntary emancipation has operated to a much greater extent than the laws themselves, or the principle of coercion upon the master has ever done even among those States who had no danger, whatever, to apprehend from the speedy and universal extension of human liberty. So little ground is there, in fact, to be found among the different sections of the Union for those uncandid reproaches which, where not reprov'd, as alike impolitic and unjust, are calculated to sow the seeds of lasting jealousies and animosities among societies of men whose best interests are indissolubly connected, and who have only to know each other, intimately, to be as cordially united by mutual esteem as they are by a common government.

All must concur, however, in regarding the present condition of the free coloured race in America as inconsistent with its future social and political advancement, and, where slavery exists at all, as calculated to aggravate its evils without any atoning good. Among those evils, the most obvious is the restraint imposed upon emancipation by the laws of so many of the slave holding States: laws, deriving their recent origin from the obvious manifestation which the increase of the free coloured population has furnished, of the inconvenience and danger of multiplying their number where slavery exists at all.

Their own consciousness of their degraded condition in the United States, has appeared to the North as well as the South, in their repeated efforts to find a territory beyond the limits of the Union to which they may retire,

and on which, secure from external danger, they may hope for the enjoyment of political as well as civil liberty.

The belief that such would and should be their desire, and a conviction that the voluntary removal of this part of the population of the U. States would greatly conduce to the future happiness of the residue, have turned the anxious attention of many private citizens, and the Legislatures of several States, to the expediency of affording to them the means of colonizing a territory in Africa.

Anterior to the year 1806 three several attempts to procure a country suited to this object, had been secretly made by the General Assembly of Virginia, through a correspondence between the Executive of that State and the President of the United States.

The last, but, at the same time, the earliest *public effort* to attain this object, was made by the Legislature of the same State, in December, 1816, some time before the formation, in the City of Washington, of the American Society for colonizing the free people of colour. The design of this institution, the committee are apprized, *originated* in the disclosure of the secret resolutions of prior Legislatures of that State, to which may also be ascribed, it is understood, the renewal of their obvious purpose in the resolution subjoined to this report: a resolution which was first adopted by the House of Delegates of Virginia, on the 14th of December, 1816, with an unanimity which denoted the deep interest that it inspired, and which openly manifested to the world a steady adherence to the humane policy which had secretly animated the same councils at a much earlier period.— This brief and correct history of the origin of the American Colonization Society evinces, that it sprung from a deep solicitude for *Southern* interests, and among those most competent to discern and to promote them.

Founded by the co-operation of several distinguished statesmen, co-operating with many patriotic and pious citizens, the American Colonization Society, for colonizing the free people of colour, soon received the countenance of the Legislature of Maryland, and, succeeding it, at shorter or longer intervals, the unequivocal approbation of the States of Georgia and Tennessee, as it has very recently done of Delaware and Kentucky.

To these have been added, during the prosecution of its benevolent design, the favourable opinions and pious aspirations for its success, of almost every religious society in the United States.

To these influences, and to the success of its measures, it may be ascribed, that private subscriptions to the extent of near sixty thousand dollars, have co-operated with the collateral aid of the American Government in founding the present flourishing Colony of Liberia. On two several occasions, in the years 1825 and 1826, the General Assembly of Virginia have voted, at the request of the Society, a small pecuniary aid to its resources; and that of Maryland has, by a fixed annuity, very lately concurred in a similar benefaction. These acts may be regarded as an earnest of the con-

tinued adherence of both States to the opinions which they have repeatedly expressed in behalf of the object of the American Colonization Society.

The success of the Society, however, so far as it has advanced, is attributable, under Heaven, mainly to the persevering zeal and prudence of its members, and to the countenance and aid which it has both merited and received from the Federal Government.

The last annual report of the Society, which is hereto annexed, and the following extracts from the various reports and resolutions of former committees of the House of Representatives, charged, from time to time, with an inquiry into the most effectual means of suppressing the African Slave Trade, will show the present condition of the Colony which the Society have planted on the coast of Africa; its present relation to the Federal Government; and the character and extent of the aid which it has derived from the national resources. The prosperity of the Colony, your committee are assured by the report and memorial of the Society, surpasses the most sanguine hopes of its early founders, and furnishes conclusive evidence of the capacity of such communities, spread along the coast of Africa, not only to abolish, effectually, that inhuman traffic which has hitherto baffled the combined efforts of the Christian world, but to afford, on this oppressed continent, the long-sought asylum to such of its free descendants in America, as may choose to return to the land of their progenitors.

The aid hitherto derived by the Society from the co-operation of the Federal Government, has been limited to the execution of the act of 1819, under "the just and liberal construction" given to it, by the late President of the United States, in honour of whom, the chief town of the Colony has received a name which it will hand down, it may be hoped, to remote posterity, as a perpetual memorial of the wisdom and benevolence of the nation, over which he presided.

This construction harmonized the benevolent spirit of the act of Congress of 1807, which sought to abolish the American branch of the African slave trade, with the constitutional obligations of the General Government, to the several States, and to the Union.

The memorialists found, on views yet more enlarged, an application to the General Government for more extended aid; and, sustained as they are, by their own weight of character, and the approving voices of so many States; by the wishes of so large a portion, indeed, of the American people; these views are entitled to the most respectful consideration.

They request the Congress of the United States to assume the government and protection of the Colony of Liberia, and to furnish to the free people of colour, in America, the means of defraying the expense of their voluntary removal to the continent of their ancestors.

Objects of greater interest, though not now pressed, for the first time, on the consideration of Congress, have rarely been brought to the notice of this Government.

The first inquiry which they suggest, refers the Committee to the power of the Federal Government to grant the prayer of the memorialists; the next, to the expediency of doing so.

The Committee entertain no doubt, whatever, but that the Government of the United States has the constitutional power to acquire territory; and that the people of every inhabited country, so acquired, must be regarded as standing, towards the Federal Government, in the relation of colonial dependence, till admitted as co-ordinate States with the common Union.

The inhabitants of every portion of the former Northwestern Territory, deriving their birth from the thirteen original States, and possessing the right of emigration, were, strictly speaking, recognized colonies of their common mother country, as are, at present, the territories of Arkansas, Michigan, and Florida. They had not the right of self-government, nor have these; but they were, or are, dependent, for their laws, upon the Congress of the United States. Such territories, with their inhabitants, can, in no sense, be regarded as the colonies of any particular State, being made up of emigrants from all the States to the common territory of all, and the power to govern them has been exercised, at all times, under the unquestioned and indisputable authority of the Union.

No State having the power to enter into any negotiation for the acquisition of foreign territory, the authority to make a treaty for that object must and does, vest in the United States, or it exists no where. This reasoning is in accordance with the past history of the United States, and the tenor of the earliest report upon this subject from a Committee of this House. But, while this Committee recognize, in the Federal Government, the power to negotiate for the acquisition of territory, and to govern it and its inhabitants when acquired, as a Colony, they are not prepared, at present, to admit the expediency of doing so, in relation to the people and territory of Africa. Were the exercise of such a power deemed, by the Committee, indispensably necessary to the benevolent and useful purposes of the memorialists, a decision on the expediency of the measure proposed, would be involved in greater difficulty, and inspire the deepest solicitude. But, the Committee entertain a different opinion. The Colonial Agent of the American Society has experienced, especially of late, very little difficulty in procuring accessions of territory. No such difficulty need hereafter be apprehended, or none that mere pecuniary aid would not promptly obviate. Nor, for the protection of the Colony against a civilized enemy, does it appear to your Committee to be required, that the United States should assume over it any jurisdiction or power of political and civil government.—The fatality of the climate of tropical Africa to the constitution of the white man, forms one source of the security of any Colony of persons capable of withstanding its influence. Against the predatory incursions of the feeble tribes in the neighbourhood of the American Colony, its own strength manifestly suffices for its defence; and, from the power of the maritime States

of Europe and America, and the agitations and dangers of their frequent wars, the humanity of the world would afford a better protection than the flag of any single State, however powerful.

While the Colony of Sierra Leone was subject, as is that of Liberia at present, to the moral control of a society of private gentlemen, it was once, during the disorders of the French Revolution, attacked by a French squadron; but, such was the indignation awakened by this act of wanton barbarity, that it was promptly disavowed by the Revolutionary Government of France: and, in all the subsequent wars of Great Britain, such an act has never been repeated, or even apprehended.

To render this moral protection more authoritative, your Committee beg leave to recommend to the House, in conformity with the report of a former Committee acting in relation to the same subject, the adoption of a resolution, requesting the President of the United States to "enter upon such negotiations as he may deem expedient, with all the maritime Powers of the Christian world, for the purpose of securing to the Colony of "Liberia," and such other colonies as may be planted on the African coast, for like purposes, so long as they may merit it, "the advantages of a perpetual neutrality."

Against the hazard, which must, however, shortly cease, if it has not already done so, arising from the desperate enterprises of those piratical adventurers who frequent the African coast, for the purpose of carrying on a trade now prohibited, North of the Equator, by all nations, and continued to the South by Brazil and Portugal alone, the growing strength of the Colony, aided by the frequent presence of the American flag in its vicinity, will furnish adequate security. To provide for its internal tranquillity, an assumption of its government, by the United States, would seem at first to be of greater moment. To the future peace and prosperity of the Colony, it may appear to be an indispensable guarantee. Some of the memorialists have so regarded it.

But as a responsibility, involving political considerations of no small magnitude, would, of necessity, attach to the exercise, by the United States, of a sovereign jurisdiction over a remote territory and people, the committee have been led, in conformity with the principles which they have already laid down, to consider it more prudent to trust the internal government of the Colony to the administration by which it has been, hitherto, so successfully conducted.

A mixture of the control of other magistrates than those of the same colour with the colonists, to be drawn, for that purpose, from the white population of the United States, might possibly arouse in other States, as well as in the colonists themselves, jealousies which do not at present exist, while no small sacrifice of human life would be the obvious consequence of attempting to sustain an authority over the Colony by the force of any other power than that moral control which repeated benefactions, a sense of grati-

tude, and the dictates of interest, may long preserve to its American founders, and their successors.

When its population and power shall entitle Liberia to rank, as it may, and in all human probability will, hereafter do, among the civilized States of the Earth, negotiation will keep open and improve the avenue which, in its feeble, though yet flourishing condition, it now offers to the admission of the coloured race from America. Thus it may continue to subserve all the benevolent and useful purposes which its early patrons and friends had in view, without subjecting it to entangling alliances with, or a degrading dependence upon, any other political community.

The power and the expediency of affording pecuniary aid to the voluntary removal of the free people of colour, from America to Africa, are questions presenting to the committee fewer difficulties.

It is not easy to discern any object to which the pecuniary resources of the Union can be applied, of greater importance to the national security and welfare, than to provide for the removal, in a manner consistent with the rights and interests of the several States, of the free coloured population within their limits. And your committee would not hesitate to accompany this report with a resolution recommending, with suitable conditions, such an appropriation, did not the public business remaining to be disposed of, by the present Congress, preclude the hope, if not the possibility, of obtaining for such a resolution the sanction of this House.

They close their report, therefore, with an earnest recommendation of the prayer of the memorialists, and the accompanying resolutions of the States of Kentucky and Delaware, to the early attention of the next Congress.



“The Crisis,

Or Essays on the Usurpations of the Federal Government.”

A pamphlet, with the above title, of 166 pages, has recently been published in Charleston, South Carolina. It is an extraordinary production. The adoption of any measures by the Federal Government in aid of the Colonization Society, (and the Tariff and Internal Improvements are regarded with a like spirit,) is denounced as a most wicked usurpation, justifying on the part of South Carolina, not only remonstrance but REBELLION. Rather than submit to such usurpation, the author declares himself ready for WAR, or even DISUNION. He compares himself to

Cassandra, and in this respect we doubt not the resemblance will hold good—that his ravings will be disregarded. To examine these essays generally, is not our present purpose. When not better employed, we may give them some attention. Our object now, is to show by one or two short extracts, how little reliance is to be placed upon the statements of this writer; and leave our readers to conjecture, if such are his assertions, what must be his arguments. The following is the account given of our Journal.

“It (the Colonization Society) causes to be published, at the seat of Government, under its immediate auspices, a monthly Journal, which it styles the “African Repository,” published by order of the Managers of the Society. It is in this periodical that are constantly disseminated, the sentiments which are to make the slave dissatisfied with his condition, and the master doubtful whether he ought to hold in subjection his slave. It is here that we have essays, in which the system of servitude is portrayed in colours the most frightful and disgusting. It is this Journal in which the tales are to be told, and the anecdotes related, of the cruelty of owners to their slaves. And it is here again, that are recorded the examples of those silly mortals who sacrificed their wealth upon the altars of a moral enthusiasm; who think they aggrandize their country by manumitting their slaves, and thus letting loose beings, neither fitted, by education or by habit, for freedom; and who must be a walking pestilence wherever they go. It is in this Journal, that are constantly expressed, those mischievous forebodings, ‘that the time must come, when the oppressed must rise against the oppressor with a desolating vengeance.’”

Now we appeal to the candour of our countrymen, and ask, is the above a fair representation of our work? Have we aimed to excite discontent among slaves? Have we sought to render the owners of slaves odious, by retailing anecdotes of their cruelty? Every honorable man will do us the justice to answer no.

Again, the Essayist remarks that,

“The negro Colony has been established ten years, and now consists of about 600 poor wretches, who would be very glad, no doubt, to return if they could.”

Compare this with the account of Capt. Nicolson, who visited the Colony in the Ontario, and who cannot possibly be supposed guilty of misrepresentation. His words are,

“The population is now 1,200, and is healthy and thriving. The appear-

ance of all the Colonists, those of Monrovia as well as those of Caldwell, indicated more than contentment. Their manners were those of freemen, who experienced the blessings of liberty, and appreciated the boon. Many of them had, by trade, accumulated a competency, if the possession of from three to five thousand dollars can be called so."

Who but one under the influence of a disordered imagination, could have penned such a sentence as the following?

"The abolitionists of Philadelphia, by a great effort, have just returned as a member to Congress, Mr. Sergeant; and that the labours of this Wilberforce of the western world, in the next Congress may not be in vain, the seat of the operations of the Abolition Society, is to be transferred from Philadelphia to Washington, that in conjunction with the Colonization Society, and the labours of Judge Washington, of the Supreme Court, that great NATIONAL object may be accomplished:—THE RUIN OF THE SOUTHERN STATES!!!

The parts of the preceding sentence in capitals, were so printed by its author. We leave him for the present, wishing to him "mens sana," when he may again attempt to instruct the public.



Letter from a Gentleman in S. Carolina.

We have reason to believe that many of the most respectable citizens of South Carolina, entirely approve of the design of our Institution. All the virtuous and religious will, we doubt not, be with us, when they correctly understand our objects. The misrepresentations and abuse of our enemies will finally place the true character of our Society in a stronger light, and give to our cause a nobler triumph. The "crisis" is indeed near, when the people of the South will feel that our Institution has special claims to their efforts, since its success would confer on them peculiar benefits. We publish the following from a Gentleman in South Carolina with great pleasure.

"I have just read the Eleventh Annual Report of the American Colonization Society, together with the 36th number of the African Repository, with great satisfaction. I am extremely glad to hear of the general enterprising spirit which is now in exercise, among many of the free-born sons of America, in behalf of that unfortunate race of the human family, whom we have among us. While our philanthropy, generosity, and goodwill have abound-

ed towards heathen nations, sympathies have at length been aroused in favour of that oppressed part of our species, the commonness of whose deplorable case, and the selfish interest that many had in them, made it a matter of no concern, with even the Christian and the professedly humane for many past years.

"But I thank the Lord, that at length the thunders of conscience and justice have awakened to action many, who, till lately, cared but little about the miserable slave, or the degraded free black man; and that they are now active in the great work of colonizing the free people of colour in the land of their forefathers. Though a slave country has been the place of my nativity, yet I hope ever to cherish that principle of right, which, unvitiated by interest or prejudice, rejoices at the welfare of the poor Africans, and at every effort which is made to better their condition."

Anthony Benezet.

In 1786, four years before Mr. Wilberforce made his celebrated motion in the British Parliament for the Abolition of the Slave Trade, Dr. Rush delivered a discourse before the American Philosophical Society, from which we make the following quotation. The sentiment it contains, affords striking evidence of the sagacity of its author, and proves that amid his investigations and discoveries in medical science, he found time to reflect profoundly upon the *influence of moral causes on the character and conduct of nations*. Dr. Rush could discern in "the labours, the publications, the private letters, and prayers of Anthony Benezet," a power which, in its progress, though it might be silent and slow, would be resistless and sure; which accumulating and expanding among future generations, would accomplish the most glorious revolution in favour of human happiness—sweep from the face of the earth the most intolerable evils, and cover the wide territories of the unenlightened and oppressed, with the habitations of civilized life and with the churches of God.

"The State of Pennsylvania still deploras the loss of a man, in whom not only reason and revelation, but many of the physical causes that have been enumerated, concurred to produce such attainments in moral excellency, as have seldom appeared in a human being. This amiable citizen considered his fellow-creature man as God's extract, from his own works; and

whether this image of himself was cut out from ebony or copper; whether he spoke his own or a foreign language; or whether he worshipped with ceremonies or without them, he still considered him as a brother, and equally the object of his benevolence. Poets and historians, who are to live hereafter, to you I commit his panegyric; and *when you hear of a law for abolishing slavery in each of the American States, such as was passed in Pennsylvania in the year 1780; when you hear of the Kings and Queens of Europe, publishing edicts for abolishing the trade in human souls; and lastly, when you hear of schools and churches, with all the arts of civilized life, being established among the nations of Africa; then remember and record, that this revolution in favour of human happiness, was the effect of the labours, the publications, the private letters, and the prayers of Anthony Benezet.*"—[Dr. Rush's Inquiry, &c.

Masonic Liberality.

We find in the Montpelier Patriot, an Address of Hon. Phinehas White, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of this state, made to that Lodge on declining a re-election. It breathes a most excellent spirit—urging the duty of active beneficence, with an earnestness that well becomes a Grand Master, who would have Masonry benevolent, not in name only, but "in deed and in truth." In the discharge of the duties of his office, he last summer laid before the several Lodges in the state, the claims of the Colonization Society, which he again stated at some length in his Address. The result has been that the Grand Lodge at its late meeting, adopted the following resolution.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge, highly approving of the objects of the American Colonization Society, present the sum of \$100 as a donation in aid of the funds of that Society.

Another resolution adopted at the same time, appointing a committee on the establishment of a Grand Lodge at Liberia, may be considered as evidence that so much interest is felt on this subject, that this donation will be followed by others.

The following sums were received of subordinate Lodges, by the Grand Secretary, as donations to the Colonization Society. Of Federal Lodge No. 15, at Randolph, \$10,—of Warren Lodge No. 23, at Woodstock, \$10,—of Social Masters No. 19, at Williamstown, \$20,—of Rural Lodge No. 52, Stockbridge, \$10.—[Vermont Chronicle.

Postscript.

Despatches up to March the third, were received from the Colony by the Schooner Randolph, just as this sheet was going to press, and we have opportunity only to say, that the affairs of the Colony appear to be generally prosperous. The Doris, Randolph and Nautilus had all arrived in safety. It is with pain that we add, that the emigrants by the Doris, have since their arrival suffered severely by sickness, and among those from the North of Virginia, a more than usual number of deaths (24) has occurred. The Doris had a long passage of sixty-one days. This doubtless (having produced, as was ascertained, a scorbutic taint in the system) had some effect upon the subsequent health of those who embarked in her. Mr. Ashmun had been very ill, but was thought to be convalescent. Further information must be postponed until next number. We publish the following from the Colonial Agent.

A CARD.

J. ASHMUN, Agent A. C. S. for the Colony of Liberia, takes this method of acknowledging, generally, the receipt of numerous valuable and esteemed communications, and a variety of donations, from the friends of the Colony in the United States, by the Brigs Doris and Nautilus, and the Schooner Randolph, all of which vessels arrived in Liberia between the 15th of Jan. and the 19th of Feb. inclusive; and adds with regret, that a severe illness, which has laid him aside from the 5th of Feb. to this date, renders it utterly impossible to reply to those favours in the manner they deserve.—Should a merciful Providence restore to him sufficient health, one of the first duties to which it shall be devoted, will be to satisfy the claims of these esteemed correspondents and benefactors of the Colony.

Monrovia, February 29, 1828.

The last London Missionary Register says, "The American Colony at Liberia possesses, it must be acknowledged, *very great advantages over every other on the Coast, for all the purposes of benevolence and piety.*"—[*Vermont Chronicle.*]

Contributions

To the American Colonization Society, in April, 1828.

Auxy. Society, Washington co., Maryland, per S. Steele, Esq. Tr.	\$29
Rev. Otis Thompson, Rohoboth, Mass.	2
Thomas White, Esq., Cambridge, Md.	4
Repository,	58
Collections in North Carolina, by the Rev. James Nourse, viz:	
J. Orkney, Washington, Beaufort county,	\$2
J. Fowle, do. do.	2
P. Brown, Murfreesborough,	2
Miss Ann E. Winns,	2 75
J. C. Stanley, Newbern,	5
Dr. E. Hawes, do.	25
Rev. J. Crowder,	1 10
Rev. L. D. Hatch,	10
Miss Benedict, Raleigh,	2
Cash from three persons, Cumberland, 50 cts. each, ...	1 50
Cumberland County Auxiliary Colonization Society, ...	30
James Webb and Wife, Orange county,	4
Elizabeth Waters, do.	1
Eliza G. Hasell, do.	1
Dennis Heart, do.	1
W. Kirkland, do.	1
James Child, do.	1
Professor Hooper, Chapel Hill,	5
J. W. Norwood, a balance collected,	55
Collection in Church, Murfreesborough,	15 50
Do. do. Newbern,	5 50
Do. do. Chapel Hill, July 1827,	10 75
Repository subscriptions paid him,	6
	135 65
Collections by C. Frye, Jefferson county, per Benj. Waters,	7 50
Rev. Rob. Logan, Fincastle, Va.—collected in 1825,	10
Rev. Mr. Davis, of Methodist Church, Washington, D. C., for collections by Ministers of his Church, as follows, viz:	
Rev. Robt. Barnes,	\$3
— John Rhodes,	6
— John Munroe,	1 62½
— John White,	7 37½
— Wm. Prettyman,	4 06½
— Th. Magee,	10
	32 06
Mr. & Mrs. Maynadier, Annapolis, Md.	2
Rev. Jos. Caldwell, Chapel Hill, N. C.	10
King Solomon Lodge No. 6, Gallatin, Tenn., per S. D. Ring, Esq.	20
	<u>\$310 21</u>

Ⓐ A number of Copies of the Sixth, Seventh, Ninth, Tenth, and Eleventh Annual Reports, are on hand, and will be sent to any Individuals, who may apply for them to R. R. GURLEY, Secretary.